

# **Brownfields Job Training and Development Demonstration Pilot**

## ***Metropolitan Community Colleges, Kansas City, MO***

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5101)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

The Brownfields Job Training and Development Demonstration Pilots will each be funded up to \$200,000 over two years. These Pilots will bring together community groups, job training organizations, educators, labor groups, investors, lenders, developers, and other affected parties to address the issue of providing environmental employment and training for residents in communities impacted by brownfields. The goals of the Pilots are to facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites contaminated with hazardous substances and prepare trainees for employment in the environmental field, including training in alternative or innovative treatment technologies.

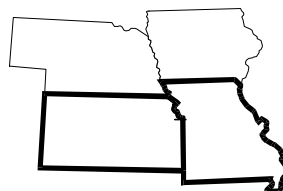
### **BACKGROUND**

EPA has selected the Metropolitan Community Colleges in Kansas City, Missouri, for a Brownfields Job Training and Development Demonstration Pilot. The Metropolitan Community Colleges will concentrate their workforce development efforts in the Cities of Kansas City, Missouri and Kansas, which are a bi-State Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot.

The Job Training Pilot will target unemployed, welfare-to-work, and other disadvantaged residents of the bi-State, Federally designated Enhanced Enterprise Community. The Enhanced Enterprise Community comprises the urban cores of Kansas City, Kansas and Kansas City, Missouri. The 50,000 residents of this area are 79% minority, suffer from a 39% poverty rate, and are 16.6% unemployed. Almost half of the residents do not have a high school diploma.

The area was once a national center for the meat packing, agricultural, railroad, and manufacturing industries. Floods and economic changes have displaced much of the area's industrial base, resulting in the presence of many abandoned and underused properties. The efforts of the two Cities

### **PILOT SNAPSHOT**



*Metropolitan Community  
Colleges, Kansas City,  
Missouri*

**Date of Announcement:**  
August 1998

**Amount:** \$200,000

**Profile:** The Pilot targets unemployed, welfare-to-work, and other disadvantaged residents of the Federally designated Kansas City Enhanced Enterprise Community, which comprises the urban cores of Kansas City, Kansas and Kansas City, Missouri.

### **Contacts:**

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(816) 482-5470

Regional Brownfields Team  
U.S. EPA - Region 7  
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Visit the EPA Region 7 Brownfields web site at:  
[http://www.epa.gov/region07/specinit/brown/  
brownfields.htm](http://www.epa.gov/region07/specinit/brown/brownfields.htm)

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:  
<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

to assess and clean up brownfields in the Enhanced Enterprise Community and the economic distress of the area's residents indicate a need for environmental training.

## TRAINING OBJECTIVES

The Metropolitan Community Colleges plan to train 100 students with the EPA grant, achieve at least a 65% placement rate, and track students for up to one year. Participants to be targeted will be the unemployed, welfare-to-work, and other disadvantaged residents of the bi-State Enhanced Enterprise Community. The Pilot training program will consist of ten modules encompassing standard and innovative environmental assessment and cleanup technologies, and community involvement. The training efforts of the Metropolitan Community Colleges will be supported by organizations such as the Kansas City Brownfields Initiative Project, Great Plains-Rocky Mountain Hazardous Substance Research Center, and the Local Investment Commission.

## ACTIVITIES

Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:

- Developing a curriculum for brownfields assessment and cleanup;
- Conducting brownfields assessment and cleanup training, including courses in the use of innovative assessment and cleanup technologies; and
- Conducting outreach to recruit unemployed, welfare-to-work, and other disadvantaged residents of the bi-State Enhanced Enterprise Community.

The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.